LAW SECRETARIAT

Annual Administration Report of the Prisons Department for the year 1950 with the review of Government thereon.

READ—

Letter No. 52–18, dated the 14th April 1952, from the Inspector-General of Prisons in Mysore, Bangalore, forwarding the report on the working of the Jails and Lock-ups in the State for the calendar year 1950.

ORDER No. H.B. 4550-62—PRIS. 82-51-7, DATED BANGALORE, THE 14TH AUGUST 1952.

Recorded.

Dr. B. Jayaram Naidu, Senior Surgeon, was the *ex-officio* Inspector-General of Prisons from 14th March 1949 to 9th May 1950 and he was succeeded by Dr. N. A. Aiengar from 10th May 1950 who continued till the end of the year.

At the beginning of the year there remained in jails 954 prisoners of all classes. Four thousand seven hundred and ninety-two prisoners were newly admitted, 4,811 were discharged from all classes and 935 remained at the end of the year. The average number during the year was 932 against 1,347 during the year 1949. The number of offences recorded in the jails was 224 against 180 during the previous year. No one was awarded corporal punishment during the year under report.

The expenditure in the jails during the year under report was Rs. 3,68,275-8-8 against Rs. 3,64,840-15-1 during the previous year. The average cost per head for the maintenance of prisoners during the year was Rs. 395-2-3 against Rs. 371-14-6 in the previous year.

The total value of the articles manufactured during the year in the manufactories of both the jails at Mysore and Bangalore was Rs. 30,743-8-5 against Rs. 56,554-11-6 for the previous year. The total amount of outstanding bills due to the manufactories of the two jails on the sale of the jail products was Rs. 1,29,197-2-3 as on the 1st January 1950 and it rose to Rs. 1,37,505-14-0 on th e 31st December 1950.

At the beginning of the year there remained in the lock-ups 366 prisoners of all classes, 7,781 were newly admitted, 7,681 were discharged from all classes and 466 remained at the close of the year. The average number for the year was 582·06 against 366·93 for the year 1949.

The gross expenditure in the lock-ups for the year was Rs. 1,45,312-3-6 against Rs. 1,73,304-4-7 for the previous year. The average cost of maintaining a prisoner for the year in the lock-ups was Rs. 249-10-4 against Rs. 473-8-2 in the previous year.

The two schools (Kannada and Urdu) continued to work in the Central Jail, Bangalore, where the curriculum prescribed by the Department of Public Instruction was followed. The Religious Ministers and teachers of the jails at Bangalore and Mysore continued to visit the respective jails regularly once a week to impart religious and moral instructions to the prisoners.

The official and non-official visitors of the jails at Mysore and Bangalore visited the jails and gave valuable suggestions for the improvement of the conditions of the prisoners. The Minister for Law and Labour visited the two jails several times and in accordance with his instructions several additional amenities in the nature of games were provided. The convicts were also allowed the use of Kannada and English Dailies.

General.—The amount outstanding recovery from the sale of jail products is very heavy and steps should be taken to recover the amount very early. While the expenditure in jails is increasing year by year, the receipts especially from the sale of articles manufactured during the year have fallen from Rs. 56,554-11-6, in the

previous year to Rs. 30,743-8-5, during the year under review. Every endeavour should be made to make the jail industries not only self-supporting but to maintain production at peak level by enforcing the prescribed tasks and utilising the cheap convict labour so readily available.

The expenditure could also be reduced by increasing the receipts from the gardens maintained in the jails and by minimising purchase of vegetables by making the jail garden more productive to meet the requirements of the jails.

To organise the jail industries and to improve the quality of the products, several important schemes like setting up Japanese Garabo Spinning Plant, fitting up of power looms and purchase of several machines to several manufactory sections has been sanctioned by Government. The Government expect that when these machines are installed there will be appreciable increase in the production of articles manufactured in the jails and before long the jails will be self-supporting.

Government observe that there has been inordinate delay in submitting the Administration Report of the Department to Government and the Inspector-General of Prisons is requested to avoid such delays and to strictly conform to the time limit prescribed under Rule 11 of the Mysore Jail Manual.

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Secretary to Government,
Law Department.

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